CLAIMS

I claim:

1.   A computer program product that includes a medium readable by a processor, the medium having stored thereon a set of instructions for an autism treatment system, comprising:

(a) a first sequence of instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to request patient information for an autistic patient from a user, and then to record the information entered by the user;

(b) a second sequence of instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes said processor to output a plurality of assessment forms having a checklist of patient signs and symptoms, and to receive and record numerical ranking information input by the user relating to each of the signs and symptoms for each the assessment forms;

(c) a third sequence of instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to compile and output a graphical representation of each the assessment forms; and

(d) a fourth sequence of instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to evaluate the numerical ranking of each of the signs and symptoms, and to output

20 critical treatment issues and suggested treatment methods for

21 the treatment issues based on the evaluation of the numerical

22 rankings.

1   2.   The computer program product according to claim 1,

2   wherein said assessment forms further comprise a checklist of

3   behaviors and observations related to the autistic patient's

4   strengths.

1   3.   The computer program product according to claim 1,

2   wherein said assessment forms further comprise a checklist of

3   signs and symptoms related to a plurality of core domains, one

4   of the core domains being danger awareness, including safety

5   issues and aggressiveness issues.

1   4.   The computer program product according to claim 3,

2   wherein said core domains includes signs and symptoms related to

3   emotional development.

1   5.   The computer program product according to claim 3,

2   wherein said core domains includes signs and symptoms related to

3   cognitive development.

6.   The computer program product according to claim 3, wherein said core domains includes signs and symptoms related to relational and social development.

7.   The computer program product according to claim 3, wherein said core domains includes signs and symptoms related to play development.

8.   The computer program product according to claim 1, further comprising a fifth sequence of instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to record information relating to the autistic patient's family values.

9.   The computer program product according to claim 1, wherein said second sequence of instructions includes a checklist of patient signs and symptoms relating to danger awareness encompassing safety issues and aggressiveness issues, the computer program product further comprising a sixth sequence of instructions which, when executed by the processor, causes the processor to calculate mean numerical values for the danger awareness signs and symptoms, and to output warnings related to dangers when the mean numerical values exceed threshold values.

1   10.   A computerized method for developing a treatment plan

2 for an autistic patient, comprising the steps of:

3   (a)   evaluating   and   recording   the   autistic   patient's

4 strengths,   including   assigning   a   numerical   ranking   to   each

5 strength;

6   (b) evaluating and recording the autistic patient's signs

7 and symptoms in a plurality of core domains of developmental

8 areas,   including   assigning   a   numerical   ranking   to   each   of   the

9 signs and symptoms;

10   (c) generating and recording an assessment of the patient's

11 median numerical ranking for each of the core domains;

12   (d)   generating   and   recording   a   treatment   plan   template

13 addressing   critical   treatment   issues   based   upon   the   median

14 numerical ranking of the core domains;

15   (e)   editing   the   treatment   plan   template   to   formulate   a

16 treatment plan; and

17   (f)   treating   the   autistic   patient   in   accordance   with   the

18 treatment plan.

1   11.   The computerized method according to claim 10, wherein

2 said step of evaluating strengths further comprising evaluating

3 all strengths listed on a checklist of strengths.

12. The computerized method according to claim 10, wherein said core domains comprise danger awareness signs and symptoms, including a checklist of safety issues and a checklist of aggressiveness issues.

13. The computerized method according to claim 10, wherein said core domains comprise signs and symptoms related to emotional, cognitive, relational and social, and play development.

14. The computerized method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of periodically updating step (b), (c) and (d).

15. The computerized method according to claim 10, further comprising the steps of recording the autistic patient's family values and revising the treatment plan in light of the family values.

16. The computerized method according to claim 10, further comprising the step of formulating and recording a crisis intervention plan.

17. An autism treatment system, comprising:

(a) at least one computer having a processor, an area of main memory for executing program code under the direction of said processor, a storage device for storing data and program code, and a bus connecting the processor main memory and the storage device;

(b) at least one relational database stored on said storage device;

(c) a computer program code stored in said storage device and executing in main memory under the direction of said processor, the computer program including:

(i) means for requesting patient information from a user and recording the information;

(ii) means for displaying a plurality of assessment forms having a checklist of patient signs and symptoms, and for receiving numerical ranking information input by a user relating to each of the signs and symptoms for each the assessment forms;

(iii) means for compiling and outputting a graphical representation of said assessment forms; and

(iv) means for evaluating the numerical ranking of each of the signs and symptoms, and for outputting critical

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23   treatment   issues   and   suggested   treatment   methods   for   the

24   treatment   issues   based   on   the   evaluation   of   the   numerical

25   rankings.